

BANTHAN TRACKS

NEWSLETTER OF THE OFFICIAL STAR WARS FAN CLUB

PRE-PRODUCTION PART II

What phase of pre-production are you involved with now?

Right now we're storyboarding the main action sequences. For the first time we're boarding both the live action and special effects together. Normally, we only board the special effects, while artists in England work on the live action, but the action sequences in JEDI are so very complex, with lots of intercutting between effects and live action, that we're boarding them simultaneously.

What are storyboards?

In the most basic sense, a storyboard is a drawing, or series of drawings that illustrates a shot or scene in a film. We do two kinds of storyboards at ILM during pre-production, and they serve distinct purposes. First, one set of storyboards is done that is used to lay the story out and give a sense of the continuity. This set includes live action and effects and is done very roughly at first. As the sequences become more defined, the boards are redrawn tighter and larger. Then the boards within that sequence which contain any kind of special effect will be redrawn in a larger format and mounted on an information sheet that has spaces for data, such as a list of elements, animation instructions, frame count and process plate number.

How does a typical storyboard session go?

It depends. For JEDI, we tried something different. We knew Richard Marquand would have to leave for England before the storyboards were finished, and we wanted to get as much of his input as possible. We took the two major action sequences, (Nilo Rodis-Jamero boarded one, I boarded the other) and laid out a good basic framework of storyboards. We went through stacks of paper and gallons of coffee. We locked ourselves in a room for two weeks, had our lunches brought in and calls held. At the end of two weeks, it was all there in very rough form. A lot of the drawings were very small, about the size of postage stamps. Now that Richard is in England, we're refining those sequences with George... adding shots, deleting shots and drawing them up larger, in more detail.

JOE JOHNSTON BIOGRAPHY

Joe Johnston attended California State University Long Beach where he studied Industrial Design, Graphic Design and Illustration. He was the Effects Illustrator and Designer for STAR WARS, the Art Director—Visual Effects for THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK and RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK, and is the Special Effects Art Director for REVENGE OF THE JEDI.

Is the script finished before storyboarding begins? Is that what you work from?

The script is still in treatment form. George has a rough idea of how he wants the sequences to work, but he's very often open to ideas. That's one thing that makes working with George so enjoyable. The script may say, "the Imperial troops attack the Rebel fortress." We'll have a quick meeting, where George will discuss his ideas on how the troops attack the fortress. The artists have suggestions, and George may say, "Well, draw up some ideas, I'll get back to you." It's this freedom to contribute ideas that keeps storyboarding exciting. Even major story points will change if someone else comes up with a workable idea. Before shooting starts, every sequence will be so well defined that the live action crews and our effects crews can use the boards as a "bible" for shooting the film. Some sequences undergo several revisions before a final version goes into the book. But, as George has reminded us, "paper is cheaper than film."

Are all films storyboarded as extensively as George Lucas?

It really depends on the director. Some directors like to board every shot and others have only key scenes boarded, with written descriptions to explain the rest. There are directors who don't use storyboards at all. George likes to tell the story with pictures. The boards are often a lot like a comic book. Instead of drawing every shot, each drawing conveys a particular idea and nothing is drawn unless it's necessary to keep the story moving. A film like JEDI couldn't be made without storyboards, because of the way the story is interwoven with special effects that won't even be shot until most of the live action is completed.

Are storyboards a recent innovation?

Storyboards have been around almost as long as films have. Over the years storyboards have evolved into an extensive visual language. There are vaults in Hollywood full of fantastic pre-production art that the public will probably never see... Not just storyboards but beautiful full-color illustrations like the stuff Ralph McQuarrie does. Ralph is better at inspiring people through his art than anyone I know. His paintings are more than just paintings, they tell a story, they illustrate his designs, they give everyone at Lucasfilm something to shoot for.

Do the designs of all the creatures and hardware evolve during the storyboarding phase or is that something that's done separately?

For the most part, the designs are decided on before storyboarding begins. The design phase is a lot of fun, especially in the early stages because we can do just about anything we want. We don't like to worry too much in the beginning whether or not something will work. George prefers to first settle on a good design and then try to come as close as possible, instead of setting limitations and letting them dictate the design.

That's a little more expensive, but it's the willingness to spend a little more to execute a better design that helps set our films apart from lesser productions. The end result looks like we care. It all comes down to production values. Norman Reynolds, our production designer, is very good at translating his designs from paper into a set on a stage or on location that does just what it's supposed to do.

Joe Johnston



Storyboarding

photo by Terry Chosner

What can you tell us about REVENGE OF THE JEDI?

Not too much. The story is great. I like it more than EMPIRE or A NEW HOPE. It will resolve a lot of questions raised by the first two films. It is packed with new hardware, new characters, new environments, as always. There's a battle in JEDI that A NEW HOPE and EMPIRE were just warm-ups for.



Jedi 'postage stamp' storyboard.

Were there classes you took on storyboarding? How can someone learn to storyboard?

I'm only beginning to understand storyboards. I don't think there are classes on storyboarding. Probably the only way to learn is to do them. Luke [said before, if it's a language] it's more than just a bunch of pictures in a certain order. The ability to draw well is important but it must become secondary. A firm sense of seeing is important also. You start looking at the world through a lens. I'm working with a very good storyboard artist who's the name of George Jensen. He's made a career of storyboarding and film design, and I feel I'm learning a lot from him. What kind of shot tells the story best? When do you go in for a close-up, or a long shot? It's a pretty satisfying feeling to see a sequence you designed appear intact on the screen.

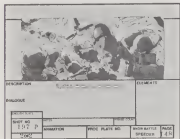
Are storyboards the only form of design done in pre-production?

No. I enjoy modelmaking as a different method of designing. Design drawings leave room for change in the transition from sketches to finished model. During the construction phase of the four-legged walker Jon Berg and I were playing around with some of the gars, legs and feet and heads and I thought, 'Hey, wouldn't a two-legged version of this thing be kinda neat?' Well, Jon was using his ears in four-legged walkers, so I stuck the two-legged walker together from model kit parts. It was solid plastic and everything that looked as if it should move was glued tight. It was interesting but we didn't think anything would come of it. Then George saw it on a shelf and said, 'That's neat, put it in the film.' Tom Statter had to disassemble the plastic walker, build an aluminum substitute for it and stick the whole thing back together, but it worked. We would've put it into more shots but we just ran out of time. Most of us were working 11 to 12 hour days just to get the scheduled shots done.

Any suggestions for fans who are planning to do the kind of work you do?

Draw. Most of the pictures we receive in the mail are rejected because the person just can't draw. And don't develop a style too early. I intentionally vary my style when I do designs of storyboards. If nothing else, it keeps the process from getting boring. People can look themselves into a particular style too soon, because it's easy to seem more natural to them, but it's important to try different ways of drawing, with different tools on different kinds of paper.

When you see a film that works, try to figure out why. Watch the way the shots are put together. Take some film classes, especially for the technical side of filmmaking, which is what I feel I really missed. But then again, working closely with George Lucas is probably the best film school you can go to. J.R. KR. MG



Since STAR WARS was released in 1977, and THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK in 1980, Lucasfilm Ltd. has received countless gifts from its fans. To the best of our knowledge, never before in the history of film have any movies sparked such a creative flow of energy from its audience.

THE STAR WARS Saga 1981 Creativity Contest was held to officially recognize your artistic abilities and to thank you for sharing your love of the STAR WARS Saga.

The fan club has received over 3,000 entries from around the world. Many of the categories were judged by the appropriate department heads and everyone found the judging to be a lot of fun. Opening the daily packages and mysterious boxes to see the latest entries was a challenge. The most popular category was two-dimensional art—mainly military crafts and portraits of the various characters. The second most popular category was literature—ranging from short, HAIKU, poems to full length novels. Great deals and plots—hours of interesting reading! The most popular title was REVENGE OF THE JEDI followed closely by the various versions of THE RESCUE OF HAN SOLO.

The film category included stop-motion, animation, movies, storyboards, SFX photos and various re-creations of scenes from the STAR WARS saga.

The music category contained songs, sound effects, recitals, lyrics and lyrics. Three-dimensional art ran the gamut from models, to sculpture, to costumes.

The miscellaneous category stretched from toys to game parks, to computer, board and video games, windchimes and needlepoint.

The model category was added as a special category to separate it from sculpture. Prizes have been awarded to both.

Special mention goes to those of you who presented us with various challenges and delights.

Most Decorative Packaging: Jeanette Jones, N.Y. James Kennedy, CA.

Most Difficult Package to Unwrap: Vickie E. Manning, MINN.

The Correlation Smuggling Award: To all of the Canadian entrants who smuggled their entries to the U.S. Postal Service when the Canadian Post Office was on strike.

Most Entries: The Stuben Family PA.

● MP, MG, KR

WINNERS

ativity outest

LITERARY—Judges: Anita Gross and Lisa Kernan Publishing

It's really like comparing apples and oranges, trying to rate a novel against a poem, for instance, or to judge writing ability in such varied age groups. Overall, there's some very interesting and inventive work in these submissions, and Lisa and I were both impressed by the great personal caring and effort that the members put into this contest.—Anita Gross

First MICHAEL PARKS, Eugene, Oregon, Age 14, *Rebel Reborn*—magazine

First BILL HAYS, Lansing, Michigan, Age 31, *A Child Shall Lead Them*—novel

Second BARRY W. BARRINGER, New York, New York, Age 19, *Chaos Aboard the Executor*—short story

Third KATHLEEN ROSE-CAROL Myers, Tolono, Illinois, Age 15, *Mercy Mission*—short story

Fourth ENRIQUE RIVERA VEGA, Xalapa, Mexico, Age 17, *STAR WARS y Yo (STAR WARS and Me)*—illustrated story

Fifth DIANN THORNEY Hyde Park, Utah, Age 14, *A JEDI KNIGHT IN KING ARTHUR'S COURT*—short story

The Rebel Reborn—by Michael Parks

A TRIA X-TRA Read all about it! Dean Star Destroyed! Interview with heroes Luke Skywalker and Han Solo—Plus Han reveals the real story of why he came back! Score! Score!—All your favorites! Killath, Watermooch, Driving Rainfall and Stammerball! Results of the Creature Bowl 1735! Movie Review—Stardestroyer A Rebelious Film, reviewed by entertainment reporter! Editorial—The very unlikely contenders for our next base: Rebel Favorite—Dear 974 3439—Weather Forecast—This week's weather on your planet, Special Attraction—For the first time ever—Han Solo's Guide to Smuggling? So buy your Rebel Reborn today!

A Child Shall Lead Them—by Bill Hays

Bill has taken all of the rumors from JEDI and the unanswered questions from EMPIRE and written an alternate STAR WARS universe story with them.

Vader knew Walt was a very special four-year-old when he first saw her stealing fruit from under the nose of the Emperor; she was controlling through the Force. Walt could see all possible futures. She agreed to help Vader capture Luke, for the new hiting Vader would also help her Princess to the emvionated future she desired. The story reunites the main characters in a final battle with Vader and his Emperor at Tatooine. In the throne room, Leia and a rescued Han are reunited and with Walt's help succeed in destroying the Emperor. Luke fights his final battle with Vader and loses, leaving it up to Han and Leia to fight the others to reveal Vader's final transformation and destroy him.

Sixth JEFF LEMOND, Arlington, Texas, Age 10, *Air Show*—short story

Seventh ANA ARECES, Coral Gables, Florida, Age 20, *The Last Apprentice*—short story

Eighth MARGARET E. TOBEY, N. Plainfield, New Jersey, Age 31, *The Traitor*—novel

Ninth DENNIS SERVAIS, Fountain City, Wisconsin, Age 11, *Luke—Darth Vader*—poem

Tenth MARK HESLING, Lakeland, Ontario, Canada, Age 10, *The Force Will Be With You*—illustrated story

Eleventh JEFFERY W. LIEBMAN, Walden, New York, Age 16, *In His Eyes*—short story

Twelfth NATALIE FARMER, Salt Lake, Utah, Age 15, *The Solitary Rebel*—short story

Thirteenth DARLENE M. STAPP, Louisville, Kentucky, Age 37, *A Meeting of Minds*—short story

Fourteenth LYNN HAUGH, N. Tonawanda, New York, Age 14, *The Asteroid Field*—poem

Chaos Aboard the Executor—by Barry Barringer

Danny Corrigan was just your typical small town STAR WARS fan. All he wanted to buy were the latest bubble gum cards from THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK. When he couldn't find the cards, the salesperson referred him to the manager, who referred him to the store's supervisor, an Imperial Officer! Everyone kept insisting Danny wanted to obtain classified information. Was it all an elaborate hoax? When Danny found himself being held by the Executor, and getting sick all over the deck from hyper-space travel, he knew he was in trouble!

Mercy Mission—by Kathleen Rose-Carol Myers

I should have known from the moment I first woke up that it was going to be a phenomenally lousy day. I was right in the middle of a wonderfully disgusting dream when something very loud and very insistent tried to beat my door down. I moaned with regret as the dream dissipated, then grumbled acknowledgment of the summons and rolled over. General Resnick's summons was to send Han and Chewie on a mission to Kassaia to rescue a small group of Rebels. Everything went fairly well and the Rebels were on board, but then the napster started to act up and they had to take a side trip to repair it. By the end of the journey Han couldn't decide which payment he valued more: the cold hard cash or the 'look Ma! I had given me', and the kiss Aloha had brushed across my cheek.

Star Wars y Yo—by Enrique Rivera Vega



Fifth Place Film

FILM—Judges: Fan Club Staff

The film category was expanded to include SPFX photos and set re-creations from STAR WARS and EMPIRE. The judges looked for unique ideas, attention to detail and the knowledge and use of SPFX in general.

First JOHN RICHARDSON, Wayne, New Jersey, Age 16 JEDI RECRUITMENT FILM

Second RICHARD A. KILROY, Los Angeles, California, Age 18. STAR SNORES—a film

Third DAVID MCCOY, Stockton, California, Age 15 Luke's Crash on Hoth—SPFX photo.

Fourth KATHY SYNOVEC, Long Beach, California, Age 15 Hoth Base—set re-creation

Fifth JIM JONGSIMA, Whitnawille, Massachusetts, Age 18 STAR WARS—remake

Sixth LYNN COTE, Irvine, California, Age 16 Walkers on Hoth—SPFX photo

Seventh SUZANNE L. STUBEN, New Kensington, Penn., Age 11. Hoth Base—set re-creation

Eighth TRACEY LASZLOFF, Mansfield Depot, Connecticut, Age 13. EMPIRE STRIKES BACK Ballet—videotape

Ninth BILL RAINY, Springfield, Missouri, Age 15 The Hunter's Prey—SW Adventure, slide show

Tenth GEORGE VARGA, Madrid, Spain, Age 14. Battle on Hoth—set re-creation

Eleventh CHRISTOPHER JAMISON, Monroe, New York, Age 12. Carbon-Freezing Chamber—set re-creation

Twelfth HUGO DECAT GONZALES, Queretaro, Mexico, Leas Appearers—SPFX photo

Thirteenth JANICE ANDERSON, Santa Ana, California, Age 32 Imperial HQ, Cantina and Rebel Base—set design

Fourteenth MATTHEW STUBEN, New Kensington, Penn., Age 10 Death Star Trench—set re-creation

Fifteenth CHRIS EGGLESTON, Allentown, Penn., Age 10 Hoth Base—set re-creation

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Jedi Recruitment Film.
In John Richardson's film, Yoda gives sage advice on what a Jedi student must learn before earning his lightsaber. In the film, Yoda displays the agility, levitating an X-wing, showing us other powers and places, and defeating Darth in a lightsaber duel.

STAR SNORES. and David McCoy
Imagine what it would be like to fall asleep one day and wake up to find yourself and your bed flying through space to become part of the events of STAR WARS and EMPIRE. See David Dodge the opening titles, X-wings, planets, asteroids, TIE fighters and the Death Star Trench. What a nightmare!

STAR WARS, A Remake.
by Jim Jongsimma
Using models, props, several friends, and a knowledge of special effects filmmaking, Jim has made the version of STAR WARS concentrating on the various key scenes that occurred in the movie

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MUSIC AND SOUND—Judge: Ben Burt, Sound Designer, Fan Club Staff

I enjoyed the creative efforts of the contestants. The tapes reminded me of what I used to do when I was younger. I judged the special effects tapes on originality, creativity, use of imagination, and most importantly on whether they entertained me. No weight was given to technical merit at all. —Ben Burt

First DAVID TAKIS, Atlanta, Georgia, Age 12 STAR WARS Boogie—hksong

First BOB ANDERTON, Manssaa, Illinois, Age 13 STAR WARS Sound Effects

Second AARON SKENTZOS, Saginaw, Michigan, Age 13 Sound Effects

Third TERRI BLACK, Kirkland, Washington, Age 19 Star Musical Interview

Fourth LYNN MONFETTE, Wiedfield, Colorado, Age 18 Captain Solo You're a Hero—hksong

Fifth JOEY PARISI, Newport News, Virginia, Age 12 Imperial Advertising Agency Commercials

Sixth MINDI M. REID, Bellevue, Washington, Age 23 The Cantina Song—hksong

Seventh JONATHAN MAURICE BELL, Memphis, Tennessee, Age 10 Narration of Luke Skywalker's Adventures

Eighth SHERI FRANKS, Shiner, Texas, Age 12 Sound Effects

Ninth PAUL MARCHBANKS, Richland, Washington, Age 10. STAR WARS Theme—piano recital

Tenth CINDY BRANDON, Garden Grove, California, Age 14 Luke and the Force—hksong

Eleventh HARRY STAMAS, Nashua, N. Hampshire, Age 17 Sound Effects

Twelfth PAULA K. BISHOP, Georgetown, Delaware, Age 26 STAR WARS Songbook—hksongs

Thirteenth R. CLARK BELL, Tulsa, Oklahoma, Age 14 Sound Effects and Vocal Imitations

Fourteenth TROY ALLISON, Casey, Illinois, Age 10 Sound Effects

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Sound Effects. by Aaron Skentzos
Aaron created various sounds for lasers, lightsabers, hydraulics and engines from everyday household items.

Satirical Musical Interview. by Terri Black
Utilizing key lines from popular songs, Terri Black's fictional reporters interview the various characters about their experiences in the STAR WARS saga.

CAPTAIN SOLO—YOU'RE A HERO [to the tune of "My Darlin' Clementine"]

Just like lightning with a blaster
always ready for a fight,
With the Rebels from disaster,
Helped the Princess in her plight.

Like a Jedi with his saber
Like a Wookiee with his bow,
With the Rebels Solo, above,
Helping more than he could know.

CHORUS
Captain Solo, Captain Solo—
Party to the Rebel Band
Though you don't know you're a hero
Others help you understand

It was tough from the beginning,
Luke was there to see you through
From that point you just kept winning,
With the Rebels your luck grew

The Alliance gained a good friend
When you vowed to remain
They assist with things you must tend
But they're driving you insane

CHORUS
Captain Solo, Captain Solo—
Party to the Rebel Band
Though you don't know you're a hero
Others help you understand

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TWO DIMENSIONAL ART Judge—Joe Johnston, Special Effects Art Director

First of all, we eliminated anything that looked traced, or copied cold without any kind of interpretation. We were unconcerned with skill at this point. We were looking for unique ideas, fresh ways of presenting them, good compositions, non-gimmicky stuff. We were especially attracted by the under ten age category because of the unbridled quality of many of the pieces. To quote Picasso, When I was seven, I could draw like Raphael, but it took until I was 45 before I could draw like I was seven, or something like that. —Joe Johnston

First RENATE SODERSTROM, Cary, Illinois, Age 7 Bots Fett—watercolor

Second SCOTT FATT, Northport, New York, Age 7 Bots Fett—pen and pencil

Third MARK RABBITT, Athenry Galway, Ireland, Age 17 One Sheet concept—acrylic

Fourth JOHN PLUMMER, Riverside, Connecticut, Age 14 Yoda and Luke—pencil sketch

Fifth ANNE MARIE SERVILLO, Queens Village, New York, Age 14 Luke and Darth—silhouette

Sixth JIMMY JANSEN, Old Greenwich, Connecticut, Age 25 Jabba the Hut's Smuggling Operations on Tatooine—watercolor

Seventh SCOTT ROBBINS, Stateville, N. Carolina, Age 9 Jawas—watercolor

Eight MELISSA JORDAN, Moline, Illinois, Age 15 The Millennium Falcon's Narrow Escape from the Space Slug?—pencil sketch

Ninth SYBILLE MARWITZ, Rhid, West Germany, Age 15. REVENGE OF THE JEDI—pencil sketch

Tenth DAVID KING, Crawley, West Sussex, England, Age 17 George Lucas Presents—pen and ink

Eleventh TED GRAY, Whittier, California, Age 14 Han Solo on East Landing Platform—watercolor

Twelfth JON CALDERAS, Warren, Ohio, Age 14 Darth Vader's Head—pen and ink

Thirteenth NINA RINTALA, Turku, Finland, Age 15 The Empire—mixed medium

Fourteenth BOB WASILUK, Woodbury, Minnesota, Age 15 One Sheet Concept—pen and ink

Fifteenth MARK C. WARD, Ridgewood, New Jersey, Age 23 Ben and Vader Battle on the Death Star—oil

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First Place 2-D Art



Second Place 2-D Art



Third Place 2-D Art



Fourth Place 2-D Art



Fifth Place 2-D Art



Fourth Place Film

THREE DIMENSIONAL ART—Judges: Mary Stall, Wardrobe, Fan Club Staff

In judging the three dimensional art category we looked for pieces that were really special, that showed imagination and nicely realized details, and that the contestant had spent a lot of time in creating

First
DANIEL J. ABDELLA, Elushing, Michigan, Age 16 Wampa Attack—sculpture

Second
JEFFERY H. GREEN, Colo Springs, Colorado, Age 17 R2-D2 and C-3PO—models

Third
GEORGE E. ANTILLA, Clarkston, Washington, Age 16 Darth Vader—costume

Fourth
TONY RACCO, Incline, Nevada, Age 18 Bust of Yoda—sculpture

Fifth
JAMES SCIONTI, Waterbury, Connecticut, Age 15 Luke and his Tauntaun—sculpture

Sixth
VICKIE E. MANNING, Nestrland, Minnesota, Age 21 Chewbacca—sculpture

Seventh
KEVIN C. MAYNE, Scottsdale, Arizona, Age 17 Boba Fett—costume

Eighth
TAL SWEET, Pontiac, Michigan, Age 15 Bust of Greedo—sculpture

Ninth
DUANE BONDS, Philadelphia, Penn., Age 33 Lando's Assistant—costume

Tenth
BARRY W. BENECKE, Elmhurst, Illinois, Age 16 Tauntaun—snow sculpture

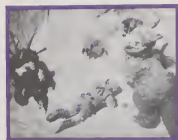
Eleventh
MARK J. BARR, Mehlville, Missouri, Age 20 Yoda—costume

Twelfth
MADELYN BLAIR, W. Bloomfield, Michigan, Age 14 Blaster—prop

Thirteenth
TOM MARTIN, San Jose, California, Age 18 Chewbacca on a Tauntaun—sculpture

Fourteenth
LORNA L. ANSTRUTHER, Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada, Age 28 Princess Leia—costumes

Fifteenth
JOHN BRINKMAN, Portland, Oregon, Age 14 Luke—sculpture



First Place 3-D Art



Second Place 3-D Art

Third Place 3-D Art



Fourth Place 3-D Art



Fifth Place 3-D Art



First Place Miscellaneous



Second Place Miscellaneous



Third Place Miscellaneous



Fourth Place Miscellaneous



Fifth Place Miscellaneous

MISCELLANEOUS—Judges: Fan Club Staff

The most difficult category to judge was miscellaneous. Entries were judged on uniqueness alone, taking into account the contestant's age but not necessarily skill or presentation.

First
NELLE VAN ECKHOOTE, San Diego, California, Age 34 Millennium Falcon Pillow—toy

Second
MARILENE KARKOSKA, S. Euclid, Ohio, Age 31 STAR WARS Children's Calendar, featuring R2-D2

Third
ANA MARIE FERNANDEZ GUTIERREZ, Madrid, Spain, Age 19 Red Squadron Patch Design

Fourth
ELISABETH ZARATE, Montebello, California, Age 14 Windchimes

Fifth
CATHIE LAYTON, Waterboro, S. Carolina, Age 26 The Reunion—an illustrated screenplay

Sixth
DERRICK SOLIS, Philadelphia, Penn., Age 23 Imperial Armored Speeder—new design

Seventh
MICHAEL RAPP, Houston, Texas, Age 5 New Game—Pin the Photon Torpedo on the Death Star

Eighth
DONALD J. CZPIA, Lorain, Ohio, Age 24 You Are There The Battle on Hoth

Ninth
WENDY IGEUCHI, Long Beach, California, Age 23, Falcon Flight—stained glass sculpture

Tenth
MARY URHASEN, Racine, Wisconsin, Age 32 The Anatomy and Physiology of the Tauntaun

Eleventh
MARK RIPPINGER, Union, Michigan, Age 20 Millennium Falcon Blueprints

Twelfth
DIANE ROE, Long Beach, California, Age 25 R2-D2 Sequenced Shirt

Thirteenth
JACK A. KUSLER, Butte, Montana, Age 26 Luke Skywalker—batik

Fourteenth
ANITA HALL, Nashua, New Hampshire, Age 29, Darth and Luke on Cloud City—alphan

Fifteenth
GERALD FRANCIS, Silver Spring, Maryland, Age 17 REVENGE OF THE JEDI—new logo design

Second Place Models



Third Place Models



Fourth Place Models



Fifth Place Models

MODELS—Judges: Lorne Peterson, Model Shop Supervisor, ILM Steve Gawley, Model Shop Foreman, ILM

Lorne and Steve chose scratch-built models and then judged those on presentation, ageing and completeness. Both judges were impressed by contestants who photographed their models outside, creating an illusion of perspective and atmosphere and showing an understanding of special effects filmmaking

First
BUDDY EPLING, Olathe, Colorado, Age 14 AT-AT Walker and Protob

Second
MARK DANZ, Santa Rosa, California, Age 16 Miniature Models

Third
SANDRA WILLIAMS, Santa Fe, New Mexico, Age 18 AT-AT Walker

Fourth
JAMES SPECHT, Plano, Texas, Age 24 Millennium Falcon Carved from Soap

Fifth
RANDALL COHEN, Philadelphia, Penn., Age 14 Scout Walker

Sixth
ADAM DECK, Bloomfield Hts., Michigan, Age 14 AT-AT Walker

Seventh
ROBBIE ROBINSON, Andover, Maine, Age 16 Scout Walker

Eighth
DALAND DAVIS, Fairfield, California, Age 15 AT-AT Walker

Ninth
JEAN-GUY BOURBONNIERE, Montreal, Canada, Age 15 AT-AT Walker

Tenth
SARAH BAKER, Westbrook, Maine, Age 15 Star Destroyer and Snowspeeder—Legos

Eleventh
JEFF WOLSHON, Sterling Heights, Michigan, Age 16 Sandcrawler

Twelfth
STEVE KANE, Pullman, Washington, Age 20 Military Crafts

Thirteenth
DAMIEN BROUSSARD, Hagerstown, Maryland, Age 16 TIE Fighter

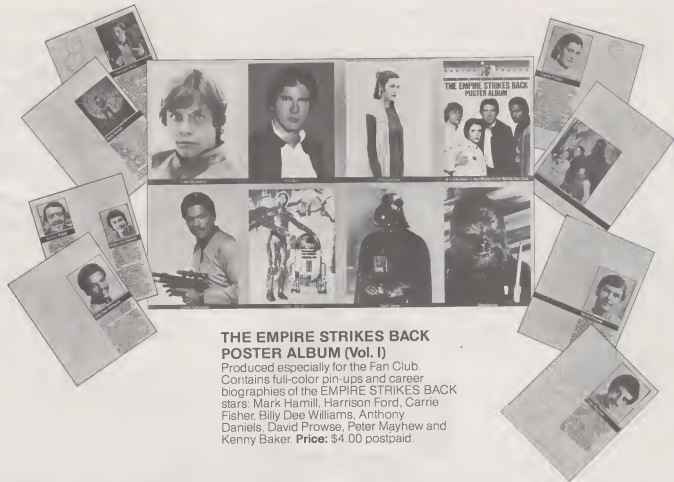
Fourteenth
WALTER AND DANNY STUBEN, New Kensington, Penn., Ages 35, 6 AT-AT Walker and Cloud City

Fifteenth
GLENN MURRAY, W. Mifflin, Penn., Age 19 Skyhopper, T-16



First Place Models





THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK POSTER ALBUM (Vol. I)

Produced especially for the Fan Club.
Contains full-color pin-ups and career
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Fisher, Billy Dee Williams, Anthony
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"VADER IN FLAMES"

Embroidered Patch

Seven Beautiful Colors

A replica of the emblem worn by THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK cast and crew on location in Finse, Norway (3" x 4½")

Price: \$4.00 postpaid.



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Embroidered Patch

Six Spectacular Colors

Ralph McQuarrie's first design created to symbolize the STAR WARS Saga. Luke Skywalker stands against the planet Yavin. (3½" x 5")

Price: \$4.00 Postpaid



THE ORIGINAL STAR WARS FAN CLUB MEMBERSHIP KIT

Now available to current members. Contains a full-color wall poster, glossy photo, iron-on X-wing and TIE fighter, Skywalker decal and wallet photo; Fan Club embroidered patch, book cover, and membership card. **Price:** \$12.00 plus \$1.50 postage and handling. Canadian orders \$15.00 postpaid. Foreign orders \$17.00 postpaid.



NEWSLETTER BACK ISSUES

Special Compilation Issue—Price: \$2.50 ea. (plus postage and handling)

Includes highlights from issues #1 through #4, originally published in 1978. Complete in one issue, the compilation contains biographical sketches of George Lucas and Gary Kurtz, articles on STAR WARS special effects, an interview with Mark Hamill, a STAR WARS trivia quiz, fan club questions and answers, and more.

Bantha Tracks Back Issues—Price: \$1.00 ea. (plus postage and handling)

#5 Interview with THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK Director Irvin Kershner; Fan Club Cartoon Contest winners, STAR WARS comic strip news, and introduction of Bobe Fett
#6 Interview with Harrison Ford, Japanese influences in STAR WARS, questions and answers
#7 Interview with Anthony Daniels, introduction of Lando Calrissian, questions and answers
#8 Interview with George Lucas, preview page of EMPIRE photographs, transcriptions of actors' phone messages
#9 EMPIRE Preview in Washington, D.C. Hollywood opening of EMPIRE, animating the Tauntaun, fan club member John Rios profile
#10 EMPIRE International report, STAR WARS, costuming, profile of member costumers, "Thank You" Mark Hamill
#11 Announcement of REVENGE OF THE JEDI, STAR WARS Radio Show, interview with JEDI Producer Howard Kazanjian
#12 RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK preview-interview with Director Steven Spielberg, Recruiting Contest Winners Profile, Members Artwork feature, JEDI update
#13 REVENGE OF THE JEDI Pre-Production Part I Co-producers Jim Bloom and Robert Watts, Selecting a Director—Richard Marquand, NASA Strikes Back, Time Capsule, Profile Kumi—Japanese Cartoonist
#14 REVENGE OF THE JEDI Pre-Production Part II: Joe Johnston—Storyboarding, Creativity Contest Winners Profile, The Los Angeles Filmmakers & STAR WARS Filksongs.

NEW! "THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK" PENCILS

At your request. Extra EMPIRE kit pencils. Shrink wrapped in packages of six. **Price:** \$2.50 postpaid.



SKYWALKER FATIGUE JACKET

As seen in THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

A custom-tailored replica in khaki-colored denim fabric. Machine washable, for men, women, and children. The futuristic styling makes this "the jacket of the 80's" **SIZES RUN SMALL. Price:** \$24.95 to \$36.95, according to size (plus postage and handling).



The Los Angeles Filkharmonic

Have you ever wished that John Williams had written words to his great STAR WARS music? Well, many STAR WARS enthusiasts have done just that. Such songs are called filksongs.

Filksongs are similar to folksongs, but carved science fiction fandom of the early thirties adopted the Anglo-Saxon word for folk—filk, to indicate a fellow fan. Anyone can write a filksong, just take any well-known melody—you're not limited to movie themes—and put your own words where there are notes. The simplest STAR WARS filksongs use the tune of the round "Frère Jacques" (Brother John).

The Round

Are you sleeping? Are you sleeping? Brother John Brother John. Morning bells are ringing. Morning bells are ringing. Ding, Dang, Dong Ding, Dang, Dong.

The Filksong

R2-D2, R2-D2, C-3PO, C-3PO, Obi-Wan Kenobi, Obi-Wan Kenobi Han Solo, Han Solo

That's all there is to it. A group of people can be coached in three groups, singing it in rounds with a minimum of instructions.

Now that you have a rough idea of what filksongs are, we can introduce you to this issue's member profile—the Los Angeles Filkharmonic—a group of eight STAR WARS fans who write a staggering number of STAR WARS filksongs. From their far-reaching of STAR WARS, they were widely enthusiastic and discovered filksongs provided the perfect creative outlet for that STAR WARS fanish enthusiasm.

How do they write filksongs? Most of their songs start as a clever bit of wording from a joke or comment, mentally scratch-jacked onto a well-known set of notes (music). A Filkharmonic will take the idea and fill out the filksong. Some of the filksongs are very funny, or simple, or develop an incomplete point from the movie. New lyrics are shown to the other seven for comments, inclusions and criticisms. Some songs are solo creations, others are written by a team.

Once a song is written, it is staged. Parts are given out by vocal range, clever introductions are written, costumes are designed and constructed when necessary and they practice until they have it down perfectly. Then comes the performance.

The Los Angeles Filkharmonic sings its way into the hearts and ears of fans at science fiction conventions. Dressed in their black formal Filkharmonic attire, they become the filksingers extraordinaire, staging a cappella performances of their filksongs at SF masquerade intermissions to the delight of their audiences. The L.A. Filkharmonic have sung on "Hour 25," a Los Angeles based Science Fiction talk show on listener sponsored radio KPFA. They also perform for "fan cabarets" (talent shows) at science fiction conventions. Their repertoire is extensive, performing such songs as

Brush Up Your SF (And They'll All

Kowtow)
There is Nothing Like a Droid
Bantha Herds in the Sand
Vader of Sin

Pop Goes the Death Star

In the mundane world, the L.A. Filkharmonic appear as JoAnn Christ-art student, Meg Garrett-Library Systems Specialist, Mary Hoyt-secondary school teacher, Doris Robin-elementary school teacher, Marcy Robin-elementary school teacher, Nick Smith-book dealer, Karen Trimble-secretary, L.A. PD, and Anne Wilson-Internal Auditor, Bank of America

PROFILE

We hope the few examples we put in this issue will inspire some of the rest of you to write and sing your own filksongs (if any of you have written any striking examples of filksongs, and would like to share them, please send us a copy KR, MG)

On Tatooine

By Meg Garrett
(to the tune of "Camelot")

A law was made a distant moon ago here,
No plant will ever show a leaf of green,
And there's never been a single flake of snow here.

On Tatooine.

The sandstorms blow December to December.

And not a drop of rain is ever seen
The Bantha herds go crazy each Sababar

On Tatooine

Tatooine, Tatooine, I know it sounds a

bit bizarre.

But on Tatooine, Tatooine, that's how conditions are

People never leave their houses after sundown

Whole families have been known to disappear

In short, there's never been

A less appealing scene,

For happily-ever-aftering than here on Tatooine

Tatooine, Tatooine, I know it gives a

person pause

But on Tatooine, Tatooine, there are no legal laws

Your droids will fall from dust

contaminated

There is never any water for your bath

In short, there's never been

A less appealing scene,

For happily-ever-aftering than here on Tatooine

The Jawas scavenge every mile

of wasteland

Even though the pickings usually

are lean

Three meals a day—all you can do is

taste sand,

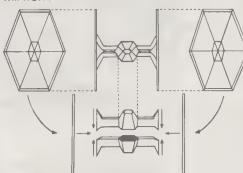
On Tatooine

HOW TO MAKE A TIE FIGHTER HOLIDAY ORNAMENT

Damian Broussard won 13th place in the model category of the 1981 STAR WARS Saga Creativity Contest with his homemade egg carton TIE Fighter. Among several uses, the TIE Fighter can be a Christmas tree ornament.

Damian's instructions require common household materials, an empty egg carton, cardboard and toothpicks, and common building materials such as glue, rubber bands, markers, ruler, scissors and a pencil.

1. Start with the body by taking the egg carton and removing one of the center egg cups from the bottom by cutting on both sides along the top of the curve of the bordering cups. 2. Repeat. 3. Place two cups lip to lip and glue them together, fastening the body with rubber bands until the glue is dry. Note: You may not be able to find egg cartons exactly like Damian's but most egg cartons will work.



We hope you enjoy making the egg carton TIE Fighter. If you have easy to make STAR WARS projects and would like to share them with us, please send them to the fan club. MG

The towns are hives of scum and degradation

(Lots of aliens with blasters,

looking mean)

It's a risk to walk the streets of

Tosche Station

On Tatooine

4. While the body is drying, cut two hexagonal pieces of cardboard to 6x4 1/2 inches (approximately) and color with black markers as shown. 5. Once the body is dry, draw the cockpit on the front with a black marker, then poke two small holes under it with the toothpick. 6. Color the toothpick with a red marker, break it in half, then insert the toothpick into the holes leaving the tips out.

7. Next, cut pieces of cardboard to enclose the ends of the body. 8. Once dry, glue the wings to the body. With a little practice, you can embellish the TIE Fighter with small hexagons of cardboard.

Tatooine, Tatooine, I know it sounds a

bit bizarre

But on Tatooine, Tatooine, that's how conditions are

Sandpeople lurk in every

other canyon

When angered even wump rats

will attack

In short, there's never been

A less appealing scene,

For happily-ever-aftering then here on Tatooine

Tatooine, Tatooine, I know it gives a

person pause

But on Tatooine, Tatooine, there are no legal laws

The greatest place is at Mos Eisley spaceport.

Where you can get a ship and

blast away

In short, there's never been

A less appealing scene,

For happily-ever-aftering then here on Tatooine



Members left to right:
Mary Hoyt, JoAnn Christ, Karen Trimble, Doris Robin, Anne Wilson, Marcy Robin, Meg Garrett, Nick Smith

Calvin Ogawa, IMAGICS

ARLIE: INKIE!
LET THE INKIEES
REVUE!



RENEWALS

Members with 1981 expiration dates, it's time to renew! Your renewal forms have been mailed.

1982 is going to be a very exciting year. We hope you decide to stay with us through our first-hand coverage of REVENGE OF THE JEDI Production and to enjoy the new special products such as silk-screened fan club member T-shirts using the Ralph McQuarrie BANTHA TRACKS logo. Remember, when you renew, you'll receive four more issues of BANTHA TRACKS and two very special Ralph McQuarrie decals. We will have new renewal items for 1982 and a new JEDI kit in 1983.



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

In response to our members' concern over the 4 to 8 week delay caused by bulk or third class mail, the fan club will now mail all special products first class or airmail. This may increase costs slightly, but will insure a far swifter delivery of your special products. Also, the fan club sets aside quantities of all limited edition products for our overseas members.

RAIDERS one-sheets were a popular item. We sold out of them rather quickly. There are plans to have more one-sheets in the future.

May the Force Be With You!

Maureen Garrett, Director



There were over 110 costumes at the 39th World Science Fiction Convention's Masquerade, many of which were STAR WARS costumes. The 71st costume was Commander Luke Skywalker by Paul Cullen. Paul Cullen's Skywalker costume received a standing ovation. Why? He was riding a Tauntaun!

The Tauntaun costume, constructed by Aletta Vett, was made of chicken wire, paper mache and fake fur. Luke's legs were covered in foam sewn to the body, leaving Paul's real legs to animate the Tauntaun. The effect was complete with the proper accessories: comlink, lightsaber, blaster and belts.

Paul and his friends stage STAR WARS presentations at their local children's hospitals, benefit parties, and schools. "Anywhere there's a lot of kids," says Paul.

Member Paul Cullen, of Chelmsford, MA, in his prize-winning costume—Commander Luke Skywalker and Tauntaun.

How to write us:

Editorial correspondence, new membership fees, pen pals, actor fan mail, costume guidelines, club information.

Official STAR WARS Fan Club, P.O. Box 2202, San Rafael, CA 94912. When appropriate send a self-addressed stamped envelope to help ensure a quick reply.

Subscription problems, membership renewals, product fulfillment inquiries: Official STAR WARS Fan Club, Customer Service Dept. P.O. Box 163, Mt. Morris, IL 61054.

To Change Address: Official STAR WARS Fan Club, P.O. Box 163, Mt. Morris, IL 61054. Please allow 6 weeks for change of address to take effect. The date of the last issue of your current subscription appears at the center of the top line of the newsletter mailing label. Please attach the actual mailing label or a copy of the label when writing about service renewal or change of address.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

New members will receive the EMPIRE kit, which contains a poster, six 8 x 10 color photos, a decal, and other ESB items, and a year's subscription (four issues) to BANTHA TRACKS.

New membership fees are \$5 (\$6 Canada, \$7 foreign), renewals are \$4 (\$5 Canada, \$6 foreign). Canadian and foreign members must order using international bank drafts or money orders made payable in U.S. currency. Please do not send cash.

FORCE NUMBERS

Your force number can be found on the upper-left portion of your mailing label. Please include this Force number at all times when writing the Fan Club.

PEN PAL SERVICE

If you are interested in having a pen pal, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Fan Club. Please write "Pen Pal" on the outer envelope.

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PREVIEW OF FEBRUARY 1982 ISSUE: A SALUTE TO RALPH MCQUARRIE REVENGE OF THE JEDI PRE-PRODUCTION PART III

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MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU